



A TESTIMONIAL TO FREEDOM

*Souvenir of the
Planting and Blessing of the
Royal Trees*



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With my compliment to
Col. W. J. Bingham
Yours very sincerely

A TESTIMONIAL TO FREEDOM



*Souvenir of the
Planting and Blessing of the
Royal Trees*



Author J. M. NEBYLOWICH
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13th March, 1941.

The story told in this booklet is the record of one of those little acts of piety and patriotism which show the character of our people.

In a country where democracy rules in all our life, there is yet a respect and regard for Their Majesties quite as great as in England. Nor are those who have come from European countries to make their homes in Canada in any degree less loyal than those of British stock.

In simple as well as in large ways, Canadians are glad to do honour to such royal and gracious persons as His Majesty and The Queen.


Lieutenant-Governor



Dedication

TO THEIR MAJESTIES KING GEORGE VI
QUEEN ELIZABETH

*under whose gracious reign we continue to enjoy liberty,
justice and equality.*

May this booklet inspire its readers to make greater
sacrifices that these rights may be preserved.



Our people in Manitoba spring from many different racial and cultural origins, but in their loyalty to the Crown and what it stands for there is no division amongst us. This small booklet is but one of the many evidences of the deep feelings of gratitude and thankfulness which are common to all Canadians in these days of terrible ordeal; gratitude that we are the inheritors of traditions and institutions of government of a free people; thankfulness that we have leaders whose example can encourage and inspire. The author's desire to pay a fitting tribute to Our Gracious Sovereigns, His Majesty King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, will meet with widespread approval.

JOHN BRACKEN,
Premier of Manitoba.



Foreword

This little volume is the record of a religious impulse and its consequences.

With emotions as simple as those of some Old Testament patriarch, James Nebylowich, of Winnipeg, a Ukrainian Canadian, felt moved, on Coronation Day, 1937, to plant two small maple trees before his cottage and name them after Their Majesties, King George VI and Queen Elizabeth. There the matter might have rested, but for the interest of his neighbours, who seemed to sense, in this act of his, a symbol of their own living loyalty. What began as an individual act of affection in time of peace was at last made, in time of war, the occasion for a general demonstration of loyalty on the part of the local Ukrainian community. On May 12th, 1940, the two royal maples, duly decorated for the ceremony, were solemnly blessed by priests of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church and the Church of England. Among the large audience were official representatives of the City of Winnipeg, the Province of Manitoba, and the Dominion of Canada.

In order that men may better understand this devotion of Ukrainian Canadians to the British Crown, Mr. Nebylowich is now publishing a brief record of the whole affair.

WATSON KIRKCONNELL.



Word of Appreciation

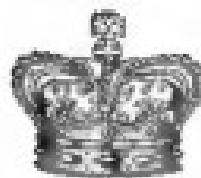
from the AUTHOR

I wish to express my appreciation to all those who have assisted me in the publication of this booklet, and particularly do I wish to express my appreciation to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, R. P. McWillim; Premier of Manitoba, Hon. John Bracken, and Professor Watson Kirkconnell for their help and encouragement.

I trust my readers will remember that I am not a writer; my literary knowledge is limited, and if my work does not measure up to literary standards kindly overlook it. I have taken the liberty to write my thoughts as they have arisen out of a series of events.

The two trees planted in honor of Their Majesties are growing nicely, and may God help us to once again enjoy peace and happiness.

J. M. NEHYLOWICH.



The Planting of Trees to Commemorate Their Majesties' Coronation

MAY 12, 1937.

SHIN THIS memorable day all the people of the British Empire celebrate a great historical event. This day in the British capital of London, Their Majesties, our beloved King George VI and Queen Elizabeth were crowned in Westminster Abbey, by the will of God, the authority of the Christian Church and according to the traditional coronation of kings.

May 12th was a happy day for all the loyal subjects of the British Empire, and especially for us Ukrainians who have been fortunate enough to be in Their Majesties' domain and enjoy unlimited freedom. These privileges and rights we did not enjoy in our own country of Ukraine, but the British Empire has accepted us under her mighty banner and bestows upon us all the blessings that a mother can upon her faithful children.

The time had come for us in Canada to demonstrate our loyalty to Their Majesties on the day of their coronation. Preceding this eventful day I could not sleep, so arose about 4 a.m. I was greatly concerned as to what I could do that the event might be long remembered. Should I write my impressions in a book? Surely I would not forget them then, but this would only benefit myself. I offered a prayer for Divine guidance in the matter.



Then there flashed a thought into my mind that in my other garden were many beautiful trees which could be transplanted near my dwelling in honor of the occasion. I hastened to the garden and in a few moments was out among my trees. There in the holy quietness of the early morning, interrupted only by the birds praising God. I dug out two maple trees and in a short time had them in my yard where I planted them in the most prominent place near my humble dwelling. I prayed to God that the trees would grow as a reminder of the Coronation of our beloved King and Queen.

The birds sang beautifully and one bird in his song seemed to utter: "Whatever you sow or plant that shall you also reap." This little message was a great encouragement to me. Then I named the trees after Their Majesties, King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, and felt greatly pleased with my effort.

In Haste to the City Hall

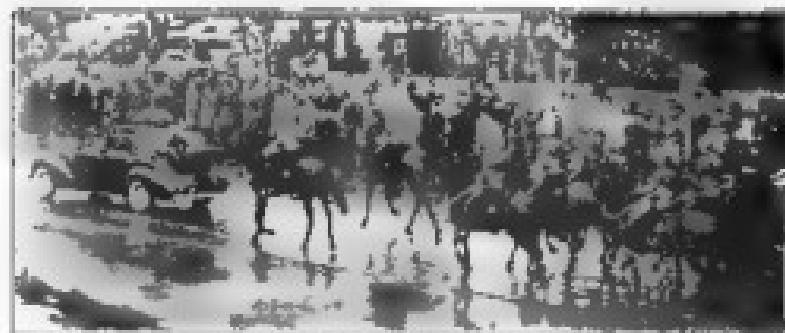
At nine o'clock, being properly dressed, I with my family hurried to the city centre that we might take part in the celebration. The City Hall was beautifully decorated with banners and insignia of Their Majesties. There were thousands of loyal British subjects of every age, position and nationality — all rejoicing together. This is real brotherhood and love that does not differentiate

in position, birth or creed. Every individual shared the happiness with Their Majesties on that day. I, too, with others was filled with gratitude to be able to participate in this great historical event. A slight rain hindered to some extent this celebration. Nevertheless I felt thankful to God for the rain, taking particularly of the trees that I had planted that morning in commemoration of Their Majesties. The trees grew and were a constant reminder to me of that great event.

The Happy Occasion of Their Majesties' Visit to Winnipeg

MAY 24TH, 1939

SPRING is here and in this glorious season Their Majesties have come to Canada. Springtime is always joyful, for the birds return, nature has come to life, and the air is filled with joy and activity. But best of all is the honey bee who flies from blossom to blossom gathering pollen for honey and pollinating the flowers. All nature was rejoicing on this day when Their Majesties arrived safely in Winnipeg. There were threatening signs of rain and many feared that we would not be able to see Their Majesties for they would surely travel



*Their Majesties on Procession to Winnipeg with Lord Strathcona Horse
at Guard of Honour*



KING SIGNS WINNIPEG'S VISITORS BOOK

He experienced some difficulty signing the register and soon slightly sprained that morning.
Left to Right—Mrs. A. Rose, Mayor's daughter; Her Majesty; His Worship
Mayor John Queen; Mr. Maurice Field B. Ferguson, Secretary to the Mayor



After the Royal Procession Had Passed, Thousands Swarmed Along Memorial Boulevard to the Legislative Building for the Public Reception by the Government of Manitoba.



Montreal: Reception to Their Majesties. In front of the Legislative Buildings Left to Right: Hon W J Tupper the Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba, the Prince Consort Right Hon Sir L MacKenzie being the King the Queen and Hon John Robson the Premier of Manitoba



Their Majesties being received by Returned Soldiers at their Lodge Hospital



Their Majesties Passing an Indian Reservation

through the city in a closed car. I had come early and found myself an advantageous place where I could clearly see the parade.

Finally the procession came moving slowly down the street, having as a guard of honor the Lord Strathcona Horse (Royal Canadians). The rain did not hinder Their Majesties rode in an open car as usual and graciously acknowledged by their smiles and gestures the enthusiastic cheers of their loyal subjects. To us Ukrainians, this was a day of rejoicing, because we were privileged to see our own King and Queen. This occasion, like the spring, gave us hope and courage.

On that day, I decorated my two trees - a uniform for that special occasion and as I worked I sang, "Glorious art Thou, oh Lord, and according to Thy will all can and will be done." People passing were attracted by the decorated trees and many photographed them. This induced me to do likewise.



Picture of Royal Master Taken on May 12th 1937

On December 12th, 1939, I sent the picture of the trees to Buckingham Palace, London., with a letter stating that in the coming spring I intended to make a living crown of the trees in their gradual growth.

On February 4th, 1940, I received a letter from Their Majesties. This letter came through the Under Secretary, F. L. Isenra, Assistant Secretary to the Governor General at Ottawa. I greatly prize this letter and wish to convey my gratitude to their Majesties for allowing me to work on the trees, so that they would be a living symbol to all peoples of Their Majesties' Coronation Day.



Preparing to Dedicate the Trees

War had been declared and some suggested I should dedicate the trees and the crown to the memory of Their Majesties. Others thought the time not appropriate, but being greatly impressed, however, with the belief that the Lord had given me patience and energy to continue, I went ahead with the work. I built a framework on which I inscribed : "*In memory of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, May 13, 1937.*" I stepped back to view my work and was more than pleased with the result. This encouraged me and immediately I started to make the crown. The day was drawing to a close, but there was no time for rest — the crown must be ready for the celebration on the following day. It was no small undertaking. I placed the crown on the framework and decorated it with flowers. The Lord's will had formed the flowers — Man's will had formed the crown. May the growth of the two maples into a crown here on our dear land, be for the glory of Canada and Their Majesties.

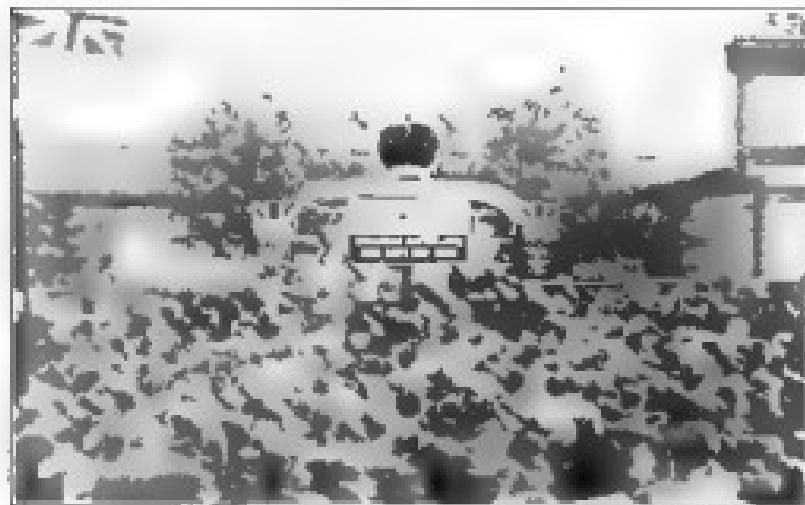
When I had completed my work I looked up into the heavens and there beheld the glittering stars as lighted candles on a Christmas tree. I offered a prayer : "Great God, grant unto us favorable weather for tomorrow."

Early the following morning the birds were again bursting with song which reminded me of the planting of the trees just three years previous.

The Dedication Day

May 12th, 1940

HIS special day was very beautiful. The sun shone brightly and everything had put on new life after a long, bleak winter. At the appointed hour a great multitude of people gathered at my home, where everything was in readiness. Between the two trees a temporary altar was placed on which there was a cross and many candles. To the right and left of the altar were two war veterans as guards of honor with two flags—one British and one Ukrainian.



THE DEDICATION DAY AT KIRK HALL, MAPLEWOOD, ON MAY 12TH, 1940

The large audience included three priests, who had been invited unto the three wise men of the East. They brought with them incense, holy water, prayer books, crosses, banners and candles. There were also present notables from the Dominion and Provincial governments and the City of Winnipeg.



Rev. Mr. C. Turner, Rev. J. Lazebek, Rev. T. C. B. Boos and young members of the Anglican and Ukrainian Orthodox Church

The blessing of the trees was performed by the Very Reverend Archdeacon John J. Zanulik, Rector of St. John Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, assisted by two priests, Rev. Father W. C. Turney, rector of St. Michael and All Angels' Church, and Rev. Mr. T. C. B. Boos, rector of St. Christopher's Church. The two choirs sang at intervals. The choir of St. Michael and All Angels' Church under the direction of Miss Halseth, and the choir of St. John's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, under the direction of Professor Eugene Turilli. The first song was "O Canada, our home and native land."

O Canada

O Canada! Our home and native land.
True patriot love in all thy sons command.
With glowing hearts we see thee rise
The true North, strong and free:
And stand on guard, O Canada.
We stand on guard for thee

O Canada! Glorious and free,
We stand on guard.
We stand on guard for thee
O Canada! We stand on guard for thee



MAYOR JOHN QUEEN

The introductory remarks were made by His Worship John Queen, Mayor of Winnipeg. In his short speech he congratulated the citizens of Brandon on the beautiful ceremony of the blessing of the two trees that had been planted in honour of The Queen's Coronation. He further stated that it pleased him greatly to hear the expressions of love in to the Crown among people who have been born in other countries and took from these expressions their great appreciation of the freedom that was afforded them under our democratic system of government, and the enjoyment of the privileges that such a system gives to the people.

A special word of praise was extended to Mr. J. Neklowich for designing this set up and the arrangements he made for the ceremony.

Following the Mayor's speech the Very Reverend Father John J. Zalibek, assisted by Rev. Father W. C. Turney and Rev. T. F. B. Hoon began the service with the song "Christ is Risen," after which the blessing of the trees and the crown took place.

A solemn occasion like this was never celebrated before. It was a triple feast:

1. **Sunday**, which is celebrated the world over as Lord's Day.

2. **Mother's Day**, which the entire world celebrates in honor of mothers.

3. **The Anniversary of the Coronation of their Majesties King George VI and Queen Elizabeth.**

That day was sanctified by the Holy Water sprinkled on the commemorative trees and the crown by three official clergymen.



The Officiating Priests, Rev. W. C. Conroy, Rev. J. Zarran,
and Rev. C. G. E. Ross

After the completion of the blessing followed a speech by Rev. Father Turney:

Rev. Father Turney

"It is a great pleasure to me and my acolytes and choir to join with the Very Reverend Father Zazulak and his acolytes and choir in blessing this Patriotic Shrine, erected with devotion and care by Mr Nebvlowich and those associated with him. This is the anniversary of the Coronation of Their Majesties and these trees were planted on the Coronation Day. Long may these trees stand and long may Their Majesties continue their happy reign.

"Human freedom is a priceless a heavenly gift. But man is not everywhere enjoying this gift. Some countries are ruled by dictatorships. The men in power will not allow the people to enjoy freedom. But thank God, under our King and Queen we freely enjoy liberty which is denied to others.

"I am glad that we have many boys and girls present as well as many grown up people. The boys and girls will carry on the memory of this event for many years after God has called some of us to depart this life. Boys and girls, always be loyal to God Almighty and to the King and to all who are in authority under him. Be loyal to your parents and to the good teachings they have brought from other lands.

"I am glad too, that we have in Canada people from many lands. I have seen some of the needlework and

other work of art which is a tradition of your mother country. I have heard your music and I have realized that Canada is a richer and better country because people have come from many countries and have not forgotten the good things they had learned before they came. It has been a principle of the British Empire to encourage people of different nationalities and languages to preserve all that is best in their traditions.

"This Patriotic Shrine will stand as a symbol of our national unity and our determination to live together in peace and harmony under Jesus Christ, the King of Kings, and under all of those to whom he has committed the task of government. God bless you all, now and eternally."

The Rev. T. C. B. Boon, priest in charge of St Chrysostom's Church, spoke next.

Rev. T. C. Boon

"It is a great privilege as well as a great pleasure for me to be present and take part in this interesting ceremony this afternoon, and I congratulate Mr. Nebylowich upon the very happy thought and the patriotic spirit which prompted him to undertake the work which we have asked God to bless today. To me this ceremony is symbolic of our national unity in a difficult time. We in Canada have been drawn from many different parts of Europe and it is difficult for us to forget the countries of our origin or cease to love them. Nor is there any reason why we should do so. Each of us by reason of our past association has some fine gift to bring, some worthy contribution to offer to this new land of our settlement and choice. And the success we make of building this new country in which it will be worthwhile living, will depend upon the whole heartedness and true value of what we bring to our task from the wealth and richness of our own past. Today, in an act of loyalty to our king as the head of our state, we

are bringing our share of loyalty to the ideal of the state as a unity of the citizens who dwell under its flag; and it is a worthy contribution.

"And then this ceremony is also symbolic to me of the unity of the Church, and of the importance and place of our religion in our national life. It is good to know that in spite of having travelled along different paths for so many years, the great Greek Church and the Anglican Church can find a common ground in a simple ceremony such as this, and meet in real communion with one another. Today the battle is joined once more with the forces of evil. It is not merely national churches which are being attacked, or individual Christians who are suffering martyrdom. The whole place of religion in life is in the front line of the battle field. The whole of those great things in life which we cherish most—Truth, Honesty, Fair Dealing, Kindness, Tolerance and Freedom are in jeopardy and will be lost to us for generations unless we are the victors. And it is essential that we should sink all our petty differences and show a united front to the enemy if once again we are to conquer in the sign of the Cross.

"I bring you the good wishes and congratulations of the Church of England."

The Sermon delivered by Very Reverend Father J. Zazulak, Rector of St. Ivan's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Winnipeg:

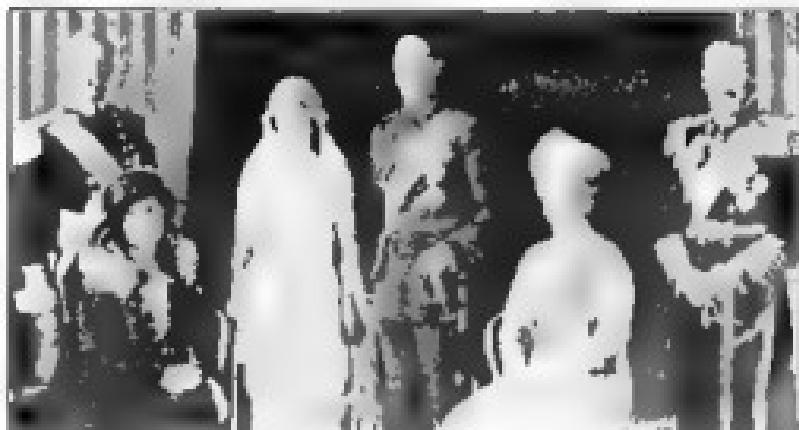
The theme of Very Reverend Father Zazulak's sermon was

One for All; All for One

"Dear Brethren and Sisters, and all present! Today, our Greater Winnipeg celebrates a big and unexpectedly great occasion. That is the third anniversary of the

Coronation of our beloved King George and our beloved Queen Elizabeth. In their honour and in their remembrance we have blessed today these trees which were planted by Mr. J. Neilybown in his yard on the day of the Coronation of Their Majesties, with the feeling of sincere loyalty to Their Majesties.

"Today, in Canada, we also celebrate Mothers' Day, which is very sacred to us, because it is in honor of our Mothers. Who brought us up, if not our Mothers? Who gave us our King and Queen if not their Christian Mothers. Truly on account of good Christian Mothers in today's hard times, God gave us this King and Queen. In these prevailing hard times the King and Queen appear to us as a real Father and as a real Mother. Their work, Fatherly and Motherly, confirm these statements, for their loyal people. Behold, my dear people, this sign which shines forth from Their Majesties' Trees."



WEDDING GROUP

A black and white photograph taken immediately after the nuptial marriage in 1947. From left to right are the Best and Honourable the Honorable Mrs. and Queen Mary and King George VI. The other Duke is Duke of Gloucester Royal Air Force captain who he father was a colonel of an Adjutant of the First. The day of the wedding was celebrated a great part as a holiday and at night there were many gaily decorated. The ceremony itself was performed in Westminster Abbey

"The Ukrainian Nation sings: God Save Our King.

"Let these words, our earnest prayer, our sincere prayer: God Save Our King — soar up to God each and every moment. Especially in these difficult hard times when our enemies with all their ferocious infernal powers have determined to destroy the best democracy in the world . . . its Freedom and its Liberty, which our King stands for.

"Therefore, let our call be — in these critical hard times, the proverb of our Fathers, which is: 'Beseech God and Lend your Hands.' Let us pray to God, our Lord, to help our King to be victorious and conquer the enemy, so that we may be able to live forever under this British Flag under the Banner of Freedom and Liberty! Let us pray to God and help our King morally and materially. Let us reveal our loyalty, not with words but with deeds! Let the patriotism and the loyalty of Mr. J. Nebylowich be as an example for all of us. On behalf of and in the name of the Ukrainian Nation, with the letter, which he submitted to our King in Buckingham Palace, he expressed the true loyalty of the entire Canadian Ukrainian population that the Ukrainian Nation sings God Save Our King.

"We are grateful to him for this and grateful are all the Ukrainians in Canada.

"I also express my heartiest thanks to Father Turney and Father Roon for their participation in this great patriotic celebration. I had a great pleasure and honor to partake in this celebration of the blessing of these trees, together with Fathers of the Holy Catholic Anglican Church, the Church of Their Majesties, our King and Queen.

"The Holy Catholic Anglican Church, which as an Empire's Church, always in critical moments defended

and defends the rights of the Sancteness and Holiness of the Eastern Orthodox Church against all enemies. Many a time, this Church raised its mighty protest for the freedom of the Holy Orthodox Church, that very first Church who is the Mother of all Christian Churches.

Lt.-Col. C. S. Booth



LT-COL. C. S. BOOTH, ED, MP

Lt.-Col. Booth also addressed the war veterans who were holding the flags adorning them to defend the Empire for democracy. In closing Lt.-Col. Booth remarked that this excursion in honor of Their Majesties which was made possible by the loyalty and untiring effort of their host, Mr. Nebylowich will surely be recorded as a great act in the history of Canada.

J. M. Nebylowich

In his speech of gratitude the host Mr. J. M. Nebylowich, with tears of happiness in his eyes, expressed his heartiest thanks to all the people who had been so kind as to participate in the dedication of the trees at his home. He thanked the Lieutenant Governor, W. L. Tupper, for his kind patronage and sympathy at this dedication of the trees to Their Majesties.



May 4th, 1860.

Dear Father Turney,

I am instructed by His Grace the Lieutenant-Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of even date in which you ask him to extend his patronage to the Dedication of the "Our Lady Shrine" at which you will officiate on Sunday May 12th next, with the Very Rev. Archdeacon Simmlak.

The object of this religious and patriotic event is very commendable and meets with the Governor's hearty approval and it is therefore with great pleasure that he assents to your request.

Yours sincerely,
R. Chynoweth
Secretary to the Lieutenant-Governor

Rev. Father Turney,
St. Michael and St. Anne's Church
Tops & Mulroy Streets, Winnipeg

*The Shrine referred to - the one
erected by Mr. Halyburton of Redwood Ave.*

He expressed a gratitude to His Worship John Queen, Mayor of the City of Winnipeg, for his patriotic opening address to the three Reverend Fathers for blessing the trees and the crown; to the choir that sang so beautifully, to the Member of Parliament, Col. Booth, whose speech inspired us to greater loyalty, and to all the delegates and people who had come in such great numbers. He also expressed appreciation to Chief Constable George Smith, Inspector George Jameson and the constables who had directed traffic and maintained perfect order during the service, to the reporters of the Winnipeg Free Press, the Winnipeg Tribune and the North Endler,

for their willingness to bring the news of this great occasion before the public; and to all others who had assisted in any way to make this occasion a success.



The Very Reverend Father John J. Zazulak then wished health, happiness and a long life to Their Majesties and their children and successors; to the Government of Canada; to the Honourable W. J. Tupper, Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Manitoba, to His Worship John Queen, Mayor of Winnipeg, to Patriarch Benjamin the First, to Archbishop Athenagoras, the representative of the Patriarch for North and South America, to the Bishop of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Bohdan; to the Archbishop of the Anglican Church, His Grace M. M. Harding and his priests, to Rev. Father Turney and Rev. Mr Boon, who were so kind to assist in the blessing of the trees, to both Choirs and their Conductors; to Lieut.-Col. Booth, to Mr. Nebylowich and family, and to all participants in the celebration.

Professor Eugene Turula in turn expressed his wish for good health and a peaceful long life to the Very Reverend Father John J. Zazulak.

The ceremony ended with Benediction pronounced by the Very Reverend Father Zazulak and the National Anthem was sung by all present.

God Save the King

God save our gracious King,
Long live our noble King,
God save the King
Send him victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us.
God save the King



Names and Origin of People Present at the Dedication Ceremony

Left to Right

- 1 Mr M Lanyko, Ukraine. Migrated to Canada 1912
- 2 Mrs B Zagranki English born, Folkestone, Kent, England. Migrated to Canada 1919
- 3 Mr J Sklensky Born in Ukraine Migrated to Canada 1906 Member Canadian Legion, B.E.S.L.
- 4 His Worship Mayor John Quay, M.L.A. Born in Scotland. Migrated to Canada 1904.
- 5 Mr J M Nelyubovych Born in Ukraine. Migrated to Canada 1904 Member Manitoba Volunteer Reserve
- 6 Mr B Nelyubovych Born in Winnipeg
- 7 Mrs F Nelyubovych Born in Ukraine Migrated to Canada 1904
- 8 Mr N Kucheciw Born in Ukraine Migrated to Canada 1913
- 9 Mr J Sklenovsky Born in Ukraine Migrated to Canada 1909
- 10 Mr J Petryshak Born in Ukraine Migrated to Canada 1907
- 11 Rev Father W. C. Tunney Born at St. Casimir Our Lady of Winnipeg 1916 Rector of St. Michael's All Angels Church of England
- 12 Mr L Halden Born in Winnipeg
- 13 Very Rev Father J Kuziel Born in Ukraine Migrated to Canada 1904 Rector of St. Ivan's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral
- 14 Mr Ch Horwitz Born in Ukraine Migrated to Canada 1911
- 15 Rev Thomas C. B. Best Born in Westminter England Migrated to Canada 1912 Rector of St. Christopher's Church in Winnipeg
- 16 Lt Col. C. S. Best, M.P. Born Fulham, England Migrated to Canada 1919
- 17 Mr J Bonowich Born in Ukraine Migrated to Canada 1926
- 18 Mr J Zavoduk Born in Ukraine Migrated to Canada 1906

My Impressions



J. M. NEBYLOWICH

During the entire service there was a noticeable spirit of sanctity. I felt the hidden secret of hope that seemed to be present in all hearts, that some day our own dear Ukraine will again be restored to the family of free nations. Her resurrection will come as Christ's own, for righteousness will crush all evil. There were tears of hope and joy not only in my eyes but in the eyes of all present. When Col. Booth

spoke addressing the veterans in particular, he said, "The liberties defended by these flags are again in jeopardy, being attacked by the enemy. It is therefore our duty as faithful citizens of Canada and the British Empire to go and defend our liberties and democracy which we all treasure under this flag and crown." I saw in the faces of those present a determination to sacrifice to the uttermost. I understood the unspoken words of their hearts "Colonel Booth, take these standards and lead us and we are ready to follow for life or death that this flag of the Empire may declare to us and our posterity a great victory, and this yellow and blue banner may declare to our conquered brethren in our own native land that the day of their subjugation is ended and they too may enjoy Liberty." With the help of our mighty unconquerable Empire and our adopted beloved Canada we shall win, for on the Empire flag is a Christian sign, the cross, which represents liberty, justice and equality to all people above whom it waves.



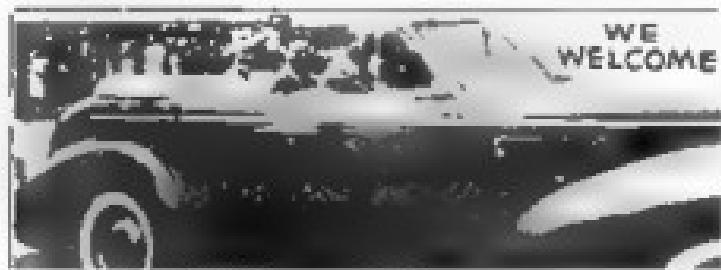
KING VOLODYMYR

At this time my thoughts wandered to some of the historical facts in connection with the glory of Ukraine when she was one of the leading powers of Europe. I thought of her King Volodymyr whose wisdom and power was recognized by the leading royal families. The daughter of King Yaroslav the Wise, in the 11th cent. A.D., married King Henry I of France. After the death of the King she ruled France in the name of her son, Philip I. The daughter of King Olaf of Sweden was the wife of Yaroslav. One of Yaroslav's daughters married King Harald of Norway, who had pretensions to the English throne as a son of Canute. (See the History of Ukraine, by Prof. D. Doroshenko.)

On this sacred occasion while listening to speeches of the spiritual leaders and government officials and the song of the choir I was reminded of the words of my beloved Father, "Always trust in God and work diligently. Such work with the help of God will be rewarded as the people will respect and approve of your efforts." How truthful as though prophetic were the words of my father. The people had approved of my efforts by partaking in this great celebration.

I take the liberty now to repeat some of the words of Rev. W. C. Turney, to quote, "Human freedom is a price-

less, a bountiful gift." In dictatorial countries people do not experience the freedom that we all so much enjoy in Canada. Our King and Queen while touring our country and the United States never on one occasion thought it necessary to protect themselves in a closed car. This is a contrast to the rulers of dictator countries who have reason to fear for their lives.



Dear Master Tommy C. S.A. and Companions in Open Car

There are at present in the world two great types of government. One type, the people sincerely appreciate and love, while the other is as equally despised. We look forward to a brighter day when the evil forces will be overpowered by the just Christian forces. The banner of St. George's Cross will never fail. Christian freedom and democracy will again be in all countries of the world.

Lieut. Col. Booth in his speech said "I am going back to war for that is the most important issue at present." On the appointed day Col. Col. Booth with 1,000 volunteers left for the front, but we have not forgotten his words. The veteran, John Skibacki, Rg. No. 887512, who held the British flag during the dedication, has given five of his sons for the defence of our country and the liberties that we love. They are as follows - Nicholas, R.C.O.C., Stephen, R.C.A., Alexander Winnipeg Grenadiers, Bill, P.P.L.I., and Mike, R.C.A.

Holding his sons farewell, Mr. Skibacki said, "My beloved children, may God protect you. Believe in Him

and you shall have victory. I fought in the last war and the right prevailed. Now you go and fight for our flag, believing in your righteous cause and if it be God's will you will return safely."

Their mother, in great sorrow with bitterness toward the enemies of democracy, said: "Dear sons, I have brought you into this world and nurtured you into manhood and now according to the will of God I give you for the defence of our country." She wept bitterly and prayed: "Oh, my God, be merciful and bring this war to an end that I may see my children once again."



CBC February 26th, 1941

*Introduction by the
HON. R. F. McWILLIAMS, K.C.
Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

Those of us who live in cities like Winnipeg know well the variety of races who have made their home in Canada and are contributing to the upbuilding of our country. When one lives in a Province in which only 51 per cent of the people are of British origin, and less than 17 per cent of French origin, leaving over 32 per cent from other stocks, one realizes how important it is that all of us should learn more about the rest of us and should study how best we can weld all these peoples into a nation stronger than any of its parts.

We are building in Canada a new Europe on the basis of friendship and co-operation, and mutual understanding is the first condition of goodwill.

This evening we are to hear from, and about, the Ukrainian people. I wonder how many people in Eastern Canada or on the Coast could tell me who these people are? In all the other provinces there are only between 30,000 and 40,000 people of Ukrainian stock, but in the Prairie Provinces they number nearly 250,000, and in Manitoba, constitute over 12 per cent of the population. From among them have come several members of the Legislatures of each of the three Provinces and at least one member in the Dominion House. Well, who are these people?

To begin with, there are some 40,000,000 of them in Europe. They have lived in that area for much more than a thousand years. In the time of our Anglo-Saxon forefathers, they built up a great kingdom around the

beautiful city of Kiev, which I have visited, the first Slav nation to reach a high standard of civilization. For three centuries this Slav people maintained a rich and flourishing state, deriving its wealth from trade and from the cultivation of the black earth soil which makes it the most fertile part of Eastern Europe. The city of Kiev, built on hills rising 300 feet from the plain, boasted 400 churches and eight markets.

But these people were unfortunate politically in having settled on an open plain without any natural defences against the more warlike peoples who surrounded them on all sides. In the 13th century, their capital was destroyed by the Mongolian Tatars and ever since their land has been the battleground of rival empires. On the east and north were the Tatars, the Great Russians, the Lithuanians and the Poles; on the south the Roman Empire of the East and later the Turks. In fact, the very name of the country - the Ukraine - means the Borderland. For seven centuries these people have been subject to one conqueror after another.

Yet in spite of all, they have maintained their nationality, their speech and their hope that some day they will regain their independence and unity as a nation. People with such powers of endurance and persistence have qualities of character which will add strength and stability to our national structure.

Through all the course of such national troubles, the Ukrainians have preserved their love of literature, dancing and especially music. Some of the names familiar to us in Russian literature are Ukrainian. I understand that the development of the ballet has come largely from them. Of their quality in the realm of music and especially of the singing of their men, you will shortly have a demonstration.

I have great pleasure in introducing to you the representatives of our Ukrainian people.

Annotator (*introducing the speaker*) :

As an outstanding representative of his own people, it is our pleasure to present Captain Michael Syrotuck, a former Commander in the Royal Canadian Artillery. Captain Syrotuck's parents came to Canada from the Ukraine in 1896, and later, his father entered Dominion service in the Department of Agriculture. At the age of fifteen, Captain Syrotuck handled aeroplane spruce for the Government. Later, he engaged in copper mining. Educated at the University of Alberta, he graduated in 1928 with his Master's degree in Scientific Agriculture, and for some years served with the Dominion Government of Agriculture.

Captain M. Syrotuck



CAPTAIN M. SYROTUCK

had to learn a new language - a difficult task for those who come late in life. They found new customs, and,

"I am certain that all Canadians of Ukrainian descent heartily appreciate the opportunity given them to express themselves and be heard throughout the breadth of this Dominion."

"It is not without pride that I find myself speaking for my fellow Ukrainians.

"When my people came to Canada, they found rolling plains and prairies, alternations of cold and heat, and an agricultural life similar to that which they had left in the old land. But they also found differences. They

also found differences. They found new customs, and,

above all, they found liberty — far greater than they had dreamed of. They found a voice in the affairs of the Dominion, the Province, the Municipality, and the local school — freedom of travel from coast to coast, security of the home, an opportunity of gaining individual independence. Their children were privileged no less, being free to avail themselves of the facilities which the Canadian institutions of learning offered them, in order to cultivate their minds and bodies. All in all, Canada has offered the Ukrainians a haven in which a sound cultural development is not only possible, but encouraged.

"This freedom of thought, expression and action is appreciated far more by Canadian Ukrainian people than it is by the Anglo-Saxon and French Canadian majority — who take their liberty for granted and who have not experienced the oppression that existed, and still exists, in Central Europe.

"No wonder, then, that their enlistments in the Canadian Active Service Force are proportionately far higher than their population. They are well represented in all branches of the service.

"The spirit of the Cossacks who, in the older days of Ukrainian history inspired Europe with deeds of bravery and sacrifice in defending their homes and liberty, lives on. This spirit lives not only in those Ukrainians who today are serving in the forces, but also in those who are eagerly awaiting an opportunity to join the colours, to maintain the ideals which Canada and the whole British Commonwealth is struggling to preserve. When the call came, the Ukrainians were not found wanting: they answered in large numbers.

"The Ukrainians of Canada, are first of all, Canadians.

"From the people of my race, Canada and the Empire can expect loyalty, devotion and co-operation, the more so in times of distress.

"All that is required to strengthen this feeling of loyalty, devotion and co-operation is a deeper and more sympathetic understanding between the Anglo-Saxon and French-Canadian, and the Ukrainian races.

"In conclusion, may I state, on behalf of those whom I represent, that we are, and will remain, good and staunch Canadians, eager to do our best for Canada and the Empire."



The Cossack's Call

"Twas the twenty sixth of February
At the Ukrainian Reading Hall,
That I heard our Captain Syrotuck
Call upon us all.

On the backdrop just behind him
The Bandurist plays on,
Encouraging the volunteers
In their battle song.

In olden days the Bandurists
Wandered o'er the land
And told the Cossack warriors
Where to make their stand.

Now in place of Bandurists
Our Captain to us calls
That if we are to save our homes
We must go to battle one and all.

He glances at the picture on the wall,
And then he seems to hear
The Cossack sings his old refrain,
The song that is so dear.

While Cossacks for freedom fought
There was a free Ukraine—
They'd mount their horses, clasp their swords,
And fight with might and main.

Now we have that freedom here,
The rich and poor must go
For if we wish a flag that's free,
Then we must fight the foe.

I heard his message on the air,
And I am glad to say
That while such thoughts 'moong us prevail
We'll win this war and Democracy will stay.

—J. M. Nebyloush.



Plants with rigid and thickened leaves are often found in the same habitats where the more delicate species are abundant.



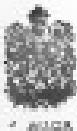


The New Canadians to Their Majesties

We that have striven against the force
Of the oppressor's reign,
We that are pagan with a hate
Bitter and sharp as pain,
We that were rich with heritage
To till the soil of the free
But were the yoke of a burdened beast
To the plow of anarchy,
We that taste salt upon our lips,
The salt of a bitter race,
Bow in obsequie our humble
Homage to Your Grace
Under free skies, the sun's emblem'd
A I of the world above.
This shall be His High Crown Supreme,
Jewelled with gems of love
We shall lay down our loyalty
A cloak for his passing tread
His step will be soft as the kiss of one
Whose soul is with the dead

When cathedrals of faith are burned to ash,
And the image of God is fallen,
And the broken heart heavy for sleep,
Is dusted with death's white poison,
And the pilgrim of peace has spent his power
And the sword of valour is rust.
Only then shall your people turn aside.
Only then shall they lose their trust
O I know my own heart's sacrifice,
If ever in His last stand,
Shall be for God, and the King I love,
And for my motherland.

Mary Lengle



Department of National Defence
THE WINNIPEG LIGHT INFANTRY (N.G.)

Winnipeg, Manitoba,

1941

J. H. Babylowich, Esq.,
651 Redwood Avenue,
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

North Winnipeg is the home of some 10,000
loyal, Ukrainian Canadians who prize the liberty and
freedom enjoyed under the British flag.

It is but natural therefore that they should
show their appreciation and patriotism by offering their
services to King and Country by enlisting with Winnipeg's
North End Regiment, The Winnipeg Light Infantry (N.G.).

Many are already overseas with the Canadian
Forces and many more are in training here in preparation
for any eventuality during the Empire's struggle for
democracy.

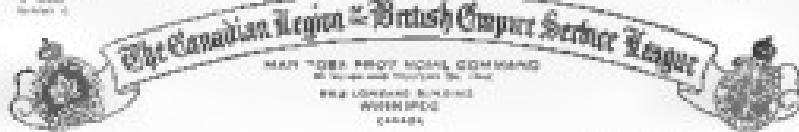
During the past twenty-five years in which I
have had the honor to be associated with this Regiment
many hundreds of Ukrainians have passed through our ranks.
I have much pleasure in stating that their service has al-
ways been a highly satisfactory nature and I shall be glad
to have more of them with us.

Mmag
(H. H. Babylowich),
Officer Commanding,
The Winnipeg Light Infantry (N.G.)

Mr. J. M. Nelylowich
631 Redwood Ave.,
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

RECEIVED MAY 20, 1940 BY
HARRY MCLENNAN, SECRETARY
C. C. L. BRITISH EMPIRE SERVICE LEAGUE
FOR CANADA
HEADQUARTERS
100 YORK ROAD, TORONTO,
ONTARIO,
CANADA

RECEIVED PARISIAN AND
ADRIAN MAIL ROOM
MAY 21, 1940
MANITOBA



100
RECEIVED

RECEIVED PARISIAN &
ADRIAN MAIL ROOM
MAY 21, 1940

May 20, 1940.

Mr. J.M. Nelylowich,
631 Redwood Ave.,
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Dear Sir:

We have in the Provinces of Manitoba and North Western Ontario a large number of loyal Canadian citizens who have flowing in their veins the blood of the Ukraine. Thousands of these bore arms in the Forces of Canada in the Great War of 1914-18. In the present war many more of these have already joined the armed forces of the Country. The Canadian Legion being a war veterans' organization is proud to have amongst its membership many of their former Ukrainian Comrades who in common with all members of the Legion are continuing in services on behalf of those who require assistance.

We commend the loyal thought which prompted the planting of the King's Trees and are glad to add our best wishes to Mr. Nelylowich who conceived and carried out the project.

Yours very truly,

CANADA

G.H. McKenzie
Provincial Secretary.



A. DARLINGTON

On Guard

The Manitoba Volunteer Reserve, Northern District, has within its ranks many nationalities. These men are drilling and training with one thought in mind, namely, the preservation of our democratic way of life.

It is significant that these men of Ukrainian and other European nationalities are willing to give their time and energy to train and prepare themselves for the defence of their adopted country should the need arise. They drill with real enthusiasm, and take pride in the knowledge that they are helping to keep this country free from insidious activities of fifth columnists and saboteurs. They have done and are doing a real service, as our records will show.

We shall continue to keep guard and assist the authorities in every way possible.

A. DARLINGTON,
Superintendent,
Northern District,
Manitoba Volunteer Reserve.

Democracy

Democracy is a grant of God's great and holy truth that was given in the beginning. Evil-doers have cast down the truth. They have hanged, burned, drowned, buried alive, and terrorized the exponents of the truth, but the truth lives forever. The truth, like God, cannot be destroyed for it is holy and will always be so. Democracy, built upon the truth, cannot be done away with. God has designed that its roots should sink deep upon this continent of North America, where today are found the great exponents of Democracy — the Canadian and American people.

Liberty is the gift of Democracy that is appreciated by all classes of the human race. It gives them the impulse of energy that is directed for humanity's blessing and good. Everyone enjoying these liberties has the right to reap the fruits of his labors and go where he pleases. He may converse with the highest or the lowliest in any language; he may worship his God as he knows Him.

In the fields of song, culture, literature, public discussion—in fact, in any field—all are on the same level and have the same opportunity. His color or race will not keep him out of the legislature or government position if the people wish to place him there.

In a democracy is found liberty of thought and action as long as these do not interfere with or encroach upon the rights of others. And if misfortune should come, the country stands at the back of every individual even to give, if necessary, material aid.

Democracy provides full protection for the individual—if accused of wrongdoing he has the right to demand a hearing and prove his innocence and regain his liberty. Women have, under the democratic form of government,

received full franchise and equality. They do not have to be abused but have the right to voice their opinions and demand their rights. Children, too, are protected and enjoy the privilege of self-expression as they develop physically, mentally and spiritually.

To be sure, even in a democracy there are criminals and unpleasant facts to be dealt with, as the best form of government is unable to change the heart if it is bent on doing evil. However, an evildoer will show his true colors sooner in a democracy, for he is given full liberty to demonstrate the kind of person he is.

Liberty in a democracy inspires men to give their best and be happy in doing it.

Dictatorship

All types of dictatorships are opposed to the progress of liberty. They have by their iron hand grasped millions of liberty-loving people and, like some prehistoric beast, while devouring their prey look greedily for more. Dictators love to have authority and to rule over others as would be gods. Under high sounding terms they wish to enslave the people under their tyrannical government. In order to keep themselves in power they have surrounded themselves with an army of detectives and guards.

In such countries the government rests in the hands of unreliable bureaucrats who have no conscientious scruples. They have trodden underfoot God's principles of justice, liberty and equality. Under a dictator it is almost impossible to obtain justice. Death and living death are meted out to those who may differ in opinion or express the desire for that liberty which is their rightful inheritance.

Dictators hate democracy and their anger knows no bounds as they work through their emissaries. These

bureaucracies are making rapid strides and by their propaganda deceive the peoples and call them to solidarity with their one aim in mind — the destruction of democracy

Great Britain is endeavoring to rescue the smaller unfortunate brothers who are being trampled under the cruel military heels of the dictators. This has angered these dictators to the extent that they have threatened the destruction of the British Isles. But—"There'll Always Be an England!"



The Unforgotten Song

Days pass by and times are changed,
And Nations 'gainst each other ranged,
Unwilling to see Freedom go,
They are compelled to strike the foe.

The trumpet sounds its clarion call,
'Defend yourselves, or perish all'
Averse to losing his sacred rights,
Man goes forth stubbornly and fights.

Rejoice not, you ev'н troll,
For your head some day will fall.
Your wicked plans you'd best not nourish,
Dictators here could never flourish.

Many a nation have you profaned;
Before all you stand defamed.
Democracy's failure is your desire,
The Slavic Race has felt your fire.

Carpathia to the Hun has fallen,
You gave the rest to godless Stalha.
The Czechs were trodden underfoot,
And Greece has felt the Roman boot.

Never shall you gain therefrom,
For 'ere long your time will come.
You have made all people ponder
On your plans of world plunder

For Truth can never be destroyed,
In her defence are we employed.
Here stand we all in our array,
Ready for the great affray.

We will make those rascals dance,
We are ready to advance,
Always ready day and night,
With unconquered will to fight.

The Cross of George will be our beacon,
And our Air Force will not weaken,
And like cranes in our formation,
We will strike you, every nation.

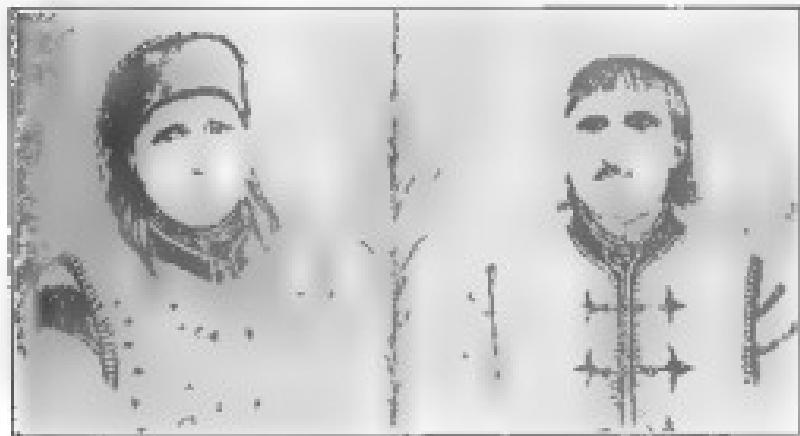
Faith in God that you will fail
Makes the nations brothers all.
And fills them with the high resolve
Your domination to abseve.

J. Nebyloush.

Autobiography

On the day of the dedication, May 1st, 1940, the reporters of the press wished to know some of my history prior to my coming to Canada. Having no time to do so then, I am giving it here:

I was born on October 18th, 1881, in the Village of Nowycia, County of Kalush, in Western Ukraine. In Premysl I served in the army. It was during this period I thought seriously upon the words of my school instructor, who in teaching the lesson on Canada had impressed me with the great opportunities which that country had to offer.



Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Neklyievich, Parents of the Author

Having completed my term of military service I returned home and begged my father to allow me sufficient funds to go to Canada. Breaking the home ties was an unprecedented task. As I thought of the school where I received my primary education, the church where I often prayed, and the library where I have spent many profitable hours, my heart became heavy. Nevertheless it became necessary to leave my homeland and to learn the

ways of others and yet to keep flourishing ideals and traditions of my nationality.

And so I left my home in the village which was built on the top of a hill, like the dome of a cathedral. Fruit trees grew in profusion around every humble dwelling. I enjoyed caring for these and had gained considerable knowledge of grafting. Bidding farewell to father, mother, two brothers, and my Motherland, I started on my journey and asked for God's protection. After five weeks I landed in Quebec in the spring of 1904. I took the train at this rugged port and went to Ottawa. From there I travelled westward to Winnipeg where I arrived in time to celebrate the Ascension. I observed that in Canada a laborer had equal rights with the rich. This impressed me very much. Instinctively I uttered. "I bow my head to thee, the land of liberty and permit me to call thee my own. May the Almighty God permit me to live in peace to the end of my days and accomplish something worthwhile."

I was naturalized in 1907 and became a true patriot in this my adopted country. I consider myself fortunate to be permitted to live under the democratic British rule. The years have passed quickly though some of them have been trying ones, but through it all I have been very happy because of the liberties we enjoy.

Wishing to contribute something to our social life, I wondered of what benefit I could be to my country that we and our descendants might continue to dwell in security. A great number of our young men have volunteered and have left for active service during the past year (1940) to defend democracy. I, wishing to do my best and being a soldier decided to join the Manitoba Volunteer Reserve for home defence.

Thanks to the Canadian American Democracies which forbid no one to develop his or her talents, I took the liberty of writing this book and in that manner expressing more widely the great love for this our land of freedom which at the present day we are all striving together to defend so that our children might enjoy the same freedom we value so much.

NOTE. The material for this book was prepared in the Ukrainian language and upon request has been translated into English.

J. M. NERYLOWICH.



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